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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/829,248	04/09/2001	Patrick M. McCartney	89.0469	7390
7590	10/21/2003			
Schlumberger Technology Corporation, Schlumberger Reservoir Completions 14910 Airline Road P.O. Box 1590 Rosharon, TX 77583-1590			EXAMINER TYLER, CHERYL JACKSON	
			ART UNIT 3746	PAPER NUMBER 10
DATE MAILED: 10/21/2003				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/829,248

Applicant(s)

MCCARTNEY, PATRICK M.

Examiner

Cheryl J. Tyler

Art Unit

3746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 17-21, 23-27 and 29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 9-11, 17-21, 23-27 and 29 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 7 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

NON-FINAL ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities: the recitation of "the outer housing" (claim 7, line 2) is presumed to be --the motor housing-- for proper antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-3, and 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Carter (3,975,117). Carter teaches a large casing 11 (corresponding to the claimed motor housing); a shaft 33 disposed within the casing; anti-friction ball bearing assembly 34, 47 (corresponding to a plurality of wear surfaces) that support the shaft; an inducer impeller pump 37 (corresponding to the lubricant pump) disposed within the casing at axial end thereof; central bore 64 (corresponding to the claimed conduit); a stator 31 disposed within the casing; and a rotor 32 rotatably mounted within the stator and

mounted on the shaft. Carter teaches that "the inducer impeller 37 suspended on the bottom of the motor shaft 33 is rotated so that its vanes 39 will induce an upward flow of the fluid through the annular passage 24 between the motor housing 17 and the surrounding casing 14. The vanes 18 in this passage 24 will diffuse rotation of the fluid created by the rotating vanes 39 to axial flow. The axially flowing fluid passes through the inwardly converging passages 25 provided in the cap 16 to inlet 26 of the first pump stage where the fluid enters the eye of the shrouded impeller 53 ... Some of the fluid from the pumping chambers 27 will flow between the adjacent impellers and the overlying walls 83 of the cup members 82 into the chambers 86 which communicate with the bores 64 in the motor shaft 33 through the passages 6 and 87. This fluid is discharge from the motor shaft bore 64 through the passages 65 in to the bottom of the motor housing 17 and can flood this motor housing to eventually leak through the bottom bearing 34 and the bearing bushing 45 back to the inducer to merge with the incoming fluid impelled by the inducer and thus, be recirculated back through the passage 24. Likewise, the bled-off fluid in the top of the motor housing 17 can flow through the bearing 47 and bushing 62 back to the first stage pump inlet 26 to merge with the fluid from the passages 25. In this manner, the motor compartment is cooled and the bearings are lubricated" (column 5, line 44 - column 6, line 17).

With regards to the limitation that the lubricant comprises an oil, a recitation with respect to the material intended to be worked upon by a claimed apparatus does not impose any structural limitations upon the claimed apparatus which differentiates it from

a prior art apparatus satisfying the structural limitations of the claims, as is the case here.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 9-11, 17-21, 23-27, and 29 are allowed.
5. Claims 4-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 9/6/2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant argues that the Carter reference teaches a motor housing 17 which does not house pumps 37, 56, and 79. The applicant is directed to element 11 which, as broadly interpreted, constitutes a "motor housing" since it "houses" the motor. As such, pump 37 is disposed within the motor housing and is circumferential about the shaft.

Conclusion


7. Since the Examiner applied a new grounds of rejection, this action is being made non-final to afford the applicant the opportunity to respond to the new grounds of rejection.

Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheryl J. Tyler whose telephone number is 703-306-2772. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 6:00 - 10:30 am.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy S. Thorpe can be reached on 703-308-0102. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0861.


Cheryl J. Tyler
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3746

CJT
October 18, 2003